Income of small and marginal Farmers

1595. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the debt burden on poor and marginal farmers is increasing and sourcing of their income decreasing day by day in the country;

(b) if so, the details of average income annually of poor and marginal farmers in each State/UT as on date and also of annual debt;

(c) whether Government propose to write off agricultural loan at least up to 10,000 rupees; if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) what schemes Government propose to give financial relief to poor farmers in the country in 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drought assistance to Andhra Pradesh

1596. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes and facilities provided to farmers affected by continuous drought;

(b) the details of budget released, scheme-wise for 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, district-wise and Mandal-wise in Andhra Pradesh, to save the farmers from worst crises, due to continuous drought; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not releasing any budget or any special package schemes, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government of India provides relief assistance in the wake of natural calamities, including drought, from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), to the State Governments who are responsible for district-wise allocation. Release of Central Share of CRF to Andhra Pradesh and